

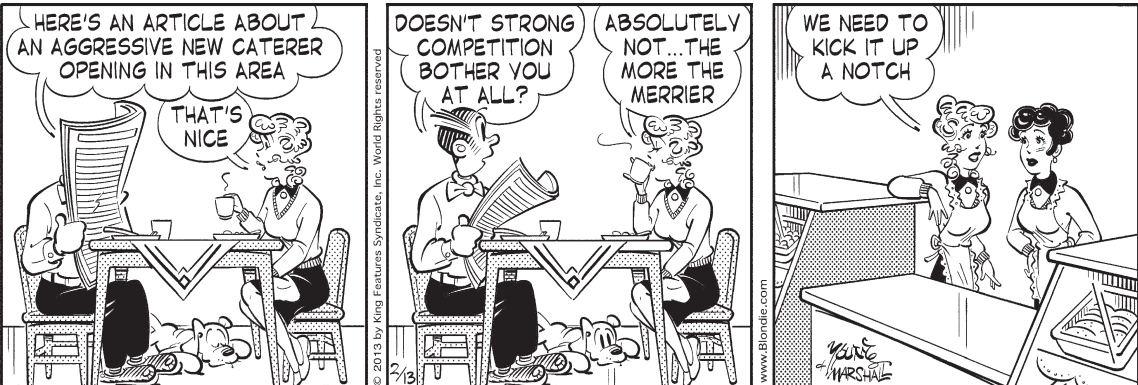
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



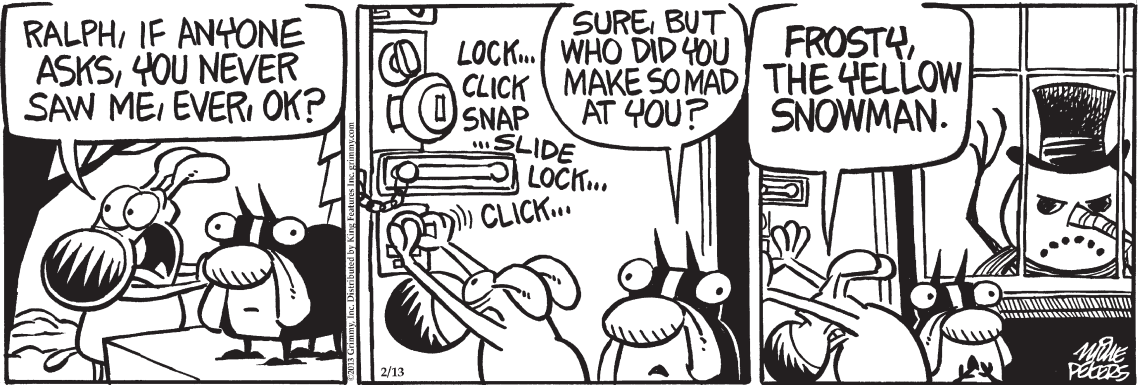
Blondie • Chic Young



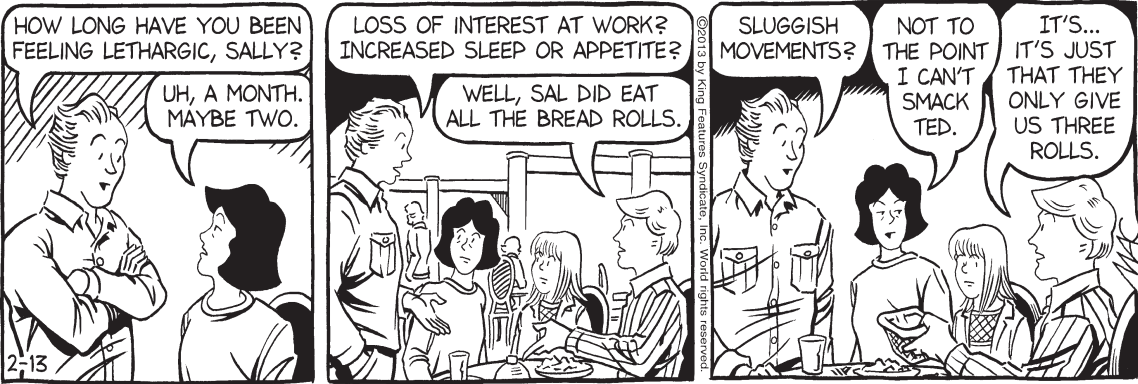
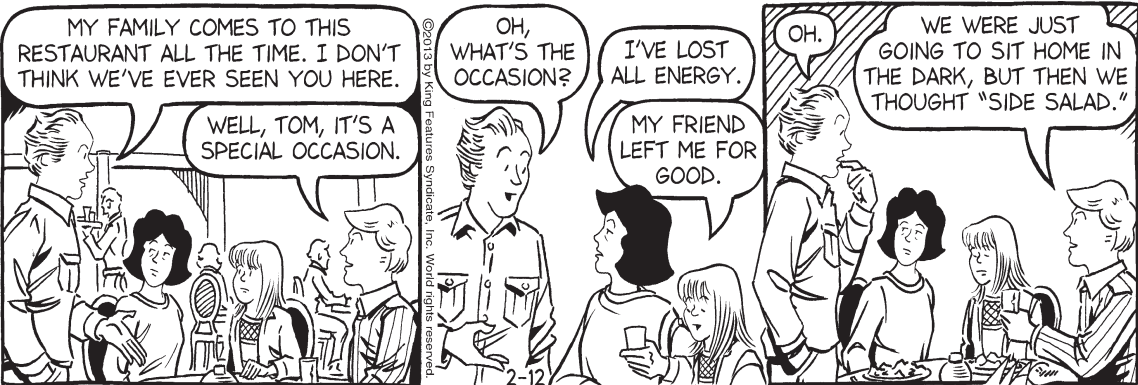
Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



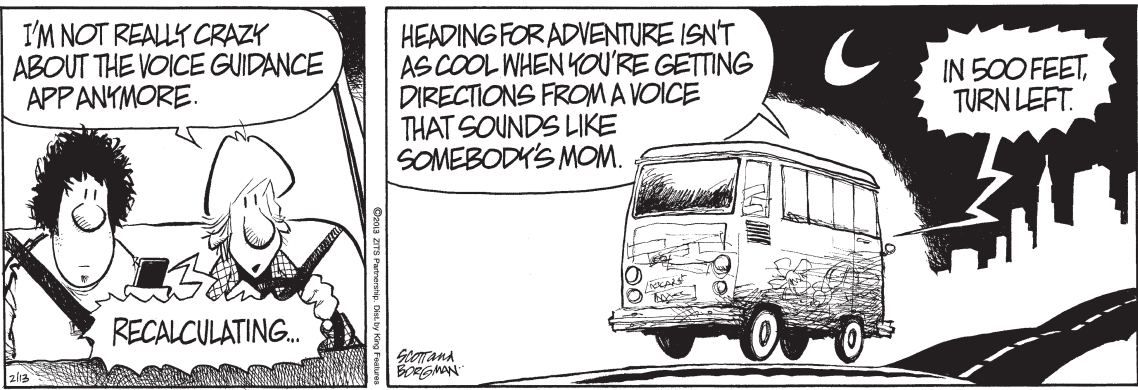
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Heloise

- Hints from Heloise

Olives make sandwich spread

Dear Heloise: I have lost your mother's olive spread recipe. Could you please reprint it, since I cannot remember it by memory? – Nora M. in Texas

Nora, here is one of the most-often-asked-for recipes: Heloise's Olive Nut Dip or Sandwich Spread, which my mother made all the time! I've added some "new" updates where I substitute low-fat versions of some ingredients. So, you can mix and match! Gather the following ingredients:

- 8 ounces cream cheese (regular, low-fat or no-fat), softened
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise or no-fat mayo/no-fat sour cream
- 1 cup chopped or sliced green olives or salad olives
- 2 tablespoons of juice from the olive jar
- Dash of ground pepper (more, if you like)
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

Mix the ingredients together and refrigerate an hour or longer. If you want to change it up, add hot sauce, jalapenos or any other spice you like. This is one of many family recipes included in my All-Time Favorite Recipes pamphlet. To receive one, send \$5 and a stamped (66 cents), self-addressed, long envelope to: Heloise/Recipes, Box 795001, San Antonio, Texas, 78279-5001. Use this spread to make little finger sandwiches, or as a dip for fresh-cut vegetables! – Heloise

PORTOBELLO MUSHROOMS

Dear Readers: Whether you are a vegetarian or just looking for something new, portobello mushrooms are just right. The largest of all mushrooms, they taste much like meat. Many restaurants offer them as a sandwich or grilled like a hamburger. This is my favorite way to enjoy them.

Here are some mushroom hints: Store them in the refrigerator in the package they came in. If you buy them loose, then store them in a brown paper bag in the refrigerator.

Before using (not storing), gently get rid of dirt with a damp paper towel or soft brush. Don't soak in water, but you can clean them in cool running water. Eat up, as these mushrooms are cholesterol-free and low in calories, fat and sodium! – Heloise

BANANA HINT

Dear Heloise: My favorite way to store ripe bananas is to remove the skin, place in a freezer bag and freeze.

When you need a quick breakfast, put it in the blender with any liquid – juice, milk, etc. Add yogurt and any other fruit or berries for a smoothie. This works better than adding ice to a smoothie, as it comes out creamier. – Regina in New Jersey

SNACK ATTACK

Dear Heloise: I often snack on potato chips. When I would like some but don't want to get a plate dirty, I grab a coffee filter. I throw a handful of chips (or any snack) in there and use it as a temporary "bowl." When done, I just toss the filter away. – A Reader in Alaska

These filters are so inexpensive. I do the same, even with celery and carrot sticks. – Heloise

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Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 6 4 3
♥ 8 3
♦ K Q 10 9 3
♣ A 10 9

WEST
♠ J 10 9 7 2
♥ K 9
♦ A 8 6
♣ 8 7 3

EAST
♠ 8 5
♥ Q J 6 5
♦ J 7 2
♣ Q 6 5 2

The bidding:
South 1♥
North 3NT
Opening lead — jack of spades.

Sylvia Displays Tricky Defense

Sylvia was always difficult to play against. It was not because she was a first-rate player – on the contrary, she was regarded by virtually every member of the club as the worst player they had ever seen – but because it was impossible to tell from her bidding or play what cards she had in her hand.

From Sylvia's standpoint, all her bids and plays were well-reasoned and correct. But when her unfortunate partners, after some particularly harrowing experience, would ask her why in the world she had done what she did, she would often offer a peculiar reason that would leave her listener in a state of utter confusion.

Of course, some of Sylvia's aberrations worked in her favor, and whenever this happened, the word would spread like wildfire through the club that Sylvia had done it again. Here is such a hand.

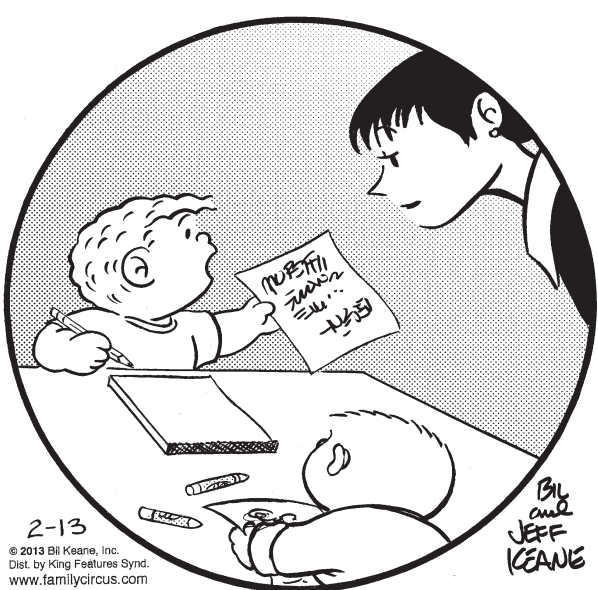
Sylvia held the East cards, and West led a spade, taken by South with the queen. Declarer now made the best play of a low diamond to the nine, on which Sylvia, for reasons best known to herself, played the deuce! This remarkable play naturally led declarer to believe that West had the jack, so he returned to his hand with a spade and led another diamond, on which West again followed low.

When declarer played the ten from dummy, Sylvia this time took the jack and returned a low heart. There was now nothing South could do to make the contract, and he eventually finished down two.

Of course, had Sylvia won the nine of diamonds with the jack at trick two – as most players surely would have done – South would not have had the slightest difficulty making at least three notrump.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

	3	4	6				7	8
		5	3	8		4	9	
				4		5		
			4	9	2			
	7					3		
2	6		5				8	
7							4	
	2	9	8				5	
			2	7			1	

Difficulty Level ★★

2/13

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

4	5	9	6	7	3	8	2	1
8	3	2	1	9	5	6	4	7
7	6	1	8	2	4	5	9	3
6	2	3	5	8	9	1	7	4
5	8	4	2	1	7	3	6	9
9	1	7	3	4	6	2	5	8
1	9	8	7	5	2	4	3	6
3	4	5	9	6	8	7	1	2
2	7	6	4	3	1	9	8	5

Difficulty Level ★

3/11

Cryptoquip

RTWG N PYZU STW NGSWZGWS

RTNFW YK VG IE UWWS,

N VDDLPNVGLFFE KZVDFLNI

"N PSLGO DVGWDSWO."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING WITH REGARD TO YOUR FAST-THINNING HAIR, IF I MAY BE SO BALD.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals U

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 41 Pitched | DOWN | 22 Citi Field team |
| 1 Request | 43 2012 Ben Affleck movie | 1 Actress Jessica | 23 Michelangelo masterpiece |
| 4 Blunder | | 2 Wittenessed | |
| 8 Weapon handle | 44 Vast expanse | 3 Chicken | 25 Freshly |
| 12 Island neckwear | | | 26 Actress Sorvino |
| 13 Sandwich cookie | 46 Celery unit | 4 Drinking vessels | 27 Remain |
| 14 Exile isle | 50 "The Grapes of Wrath" | 5 Tramcar contents | 28 Right on the map? |
| 15 Spelling contest | | 6 "— the fields we go" | 29 Pruritis |
| 16 "West Side Story" composer | 55 Heavy weight | 7 Typeface | 30 In the vicinity |
| 18 Tiny ear bone | 56 Frogs' hangout | 8 Straight, for short | 31 — -do-well |
| 20 Ball prop | 57 Needle case | 9 Hearty brew | 35 Football |
| 21 Office part-timer | 58 Japanese sash | 10 G-men's org. | 38 Adjoining |
| 24 Stuffs tightly | 59 Church section | 11 Bronze | 40 "To be or — ..." |
| 28 "E = mc²" man | 60 Mend a sock | 17 Moment | 42 Cyst |
| 32 Not procrastinating | 61 Witticism | 19 Part of TGIF | 45 Sleeping |

P	E	P	S	A	B	C	S	H	A	W
V	E	R	T	E	B	R	A	P	U	R
C	R	O	A	T	I	A	N	R	E	E
B	A	T	B	R	I	D	A	L		
S	K	U	L	L	B	E	A	T		
T	I	R	E	V	E	R	I	Z	O	N
P	E	G	P	E	A	R	L	S	E	A
V	E	R	A	N	D	A	P	L	A	N
A	L	A	S	A	C	H	O	R	D	
F	E	N	N	E	C	A	L	A		
A	M	O	K			A	C	C	U	R
R	T	I	L	L		V	E	R	B	O
E	R	I	E		A	L	E		S	E

Yesterday's answer 2-13

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16				17				
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32			
33				34				35		36		
37			38		39				40			
41				42		43						
			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53	54				55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		